



STATEMENT OF MICHELE SIQUEIROS
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October 10, 2013

STATEMENT ON THE PASSAGE OF SB 440

Today we applaud Governor Jerry Brown for signing into law SB 440, a measure that will make student transfers from California Community Colleges (CCC) to the California State University (CSU) efficient, cost effective and achievable – a promise made in 1960 under the Master Plan for Higher Education that until now, had not been kept.

Once implemented, SB 440 will substantially reduce the amount of time and expense it takes most students to earn an Associate Degree and to successfully transfer to the CSU because SB 440 requires the CCCs and CSUs to meet clear benchmarks for offering Associate Degrees for Transfer at each community college and for accepting them at each CSU campus. It requires the CSU to develop an admission redirection process for students who are not admitted to their campus of choice and it strengthens communication and outreach of the new pathway for students across the state.

This historic legislation to create a clear and strong pathway to transfer in our state would not be possible without the leadership of the bill's author, State Senator Alex Padilla. Senator Padilla was joined by an overwhelming bipartisan group of legislators from the Senate and Assembly along with dozens of organizations from across the political spectrum in support of the legislation.

SB 440 is our best chance to ensure that real transfer reform is achieved and that our promises to students are kept. It builds on the momentum of SB 1440 (Padilla), which became law in 2010 and called upon the community college and state university systems to develop an Associate Degree for Transfer program.

The Campaign for College Opportunity has worked hand-in-hand with Senator Padilla on this critical legislation and we will continue to advocate for policies that not only help students to begin an education, but to also complete a course of study, attain a degree so they can be prepared to succeed in California's workforce.

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About The Campaign for College Opportunity: The Campaign for College Opportunity is a broad-based, bipartisan coalition, including business, education and civil rights leaders, that is dedicated to ensuring the next generation of Californians has the opportunity to go to college and succeed. Our mission is focused on substantially increasing the number of students attending two- and four-year colleges in the state and who complete their college education. For more information, visit: www.collegecampaign.org.